GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3395
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
High Making Charges on Jewellery
Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the jewellers charging high making charges on Hall-marked 22 ct. golden ornaments as well as 24 ct. gold coins;
(b) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard in the last three fiscal years and the action taken thereon;
(c) whether the Government is also aware of the fact that various private banks, too are charging heavy making charges on Hall marked 24 ct. and 99.9% purity gold coins of various weights;
(d) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard; and
(e) whether there is a provision to penalize jewellers or bankers for overcharging on gold coins of 24 ct. and 99.9% purity?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

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(a) to (e): Hallmarking Scheme was launched by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in April 2000 to protect the interest of consumer in respect of Gold jewellery by ensuring purity of gold jewellery by Hallmarking. Under the scheme, the jewellers having license from BIS can sell hallmarked jewellery. These jewellers get the jewellery hallmarked at Assaying & Hallmarking Centres (A& H Centres) recognized by BIS and pay Rs. 25 per article to the A&H Centre for hallmarking.
The details of complaints received at National Consumer Helpline regarding jewelers charging high making charges on hallmarked ornaments during the last three years, year- wise are as under :-

Financial year	Number of complaints received against high making charges charged by Jewelers
April 2013-March 14	9
May 2014-March 15	8
April 2015-March 16	6

No complaint regarding private banks charging high making charges on hallmarked gold coins have been received.
The making charges of the jewellery/coins are not administered by the Central Government.
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